IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION NO.2263 OF 2007
ALONG WITH
WRIT PETITION NO.2285 OF 2007
ALONG WITH
WRIT PETITION (LODGING) NO.2135 OF 2007

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. ... Petitioner

Vs.

Life Insurance Corporation Ltd. ... Respondent

Mr. C.M. Korde, senior counsel with Ms. S.V. Sonawane for the petitioner.

Mr. V.Y. Sanglikar for the respondent.

CORAM : SMT. RANJANA DESAI &
DR.D.Y. CHANDRACHUD, JJ.

DATED : OCTOBER 30, 2007.

P.C.:-

1. The basic contention of the petitioner is that the petitioner being a public sector undertaking, the dispute involved herein should be referred to the High Power Committee. The Estate Officer has by relying on the judgment of the Supreme Court in

Steel Authority of India Limited v. LIC of India, AIR 1997 SC 2590, rejected the objection raised by the petitioner.

2. In our opinion, the order of the Estate Officer cannot be faulted. The reliance placed on the judgment of the Supreme Court is apt. We see no reason to interfere with the view taken by the Estate Officer. The petitions are, therefore, dismissed. Needless to say that all questions on merits of the case are kept open.

[SMT. RANJANA DESAI, J.]

[DR. D.Y.CHANDRACHUD, J.]